UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT Southern District of Mississippi Office of the Clerk



March 4, 2016

FRAUD ALERT - Jury Fine Scam

The Clerk's Office in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi has received several reports of individuals receiving telephone calls from someone purporting to be with the Clerk's Office, the U. S. Marshal's Service, or some other agency of government indicating that the individuals owe a fine or criminal penalty for failure to appear for jury duty. The caller may even refer to a specific judge and/or courthouse location. The individuals are then requested to pay the fine by purchasing a debit card, providing a credit card number, or by other electronic means.

These phone calls and any associated emails are fraudulent and have no connection to the United States District Court or any other agency of the federal government.

Neither this Court, nor any law enforcement agency, will ever call someone to request payment of a fine, fee, or judgment by purchasing a debit or credit card or by providing a credit card number to charge against.

Anyone contacted by such a caller should not make payment and should instead report details of the event to your local law enforcement agency.

In addition, members of the public may also contact the Clerk's Office at 601-608-4000 to confirm whether a call or email they have received is valid.